IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Julie Theel Examiner: Lowen, Alyssa M. Group Art Unit: Application No.: 10/668,049 3711 Filing Date: September 22, 2003 Confirmation No. 72.72 Office Action Date: June 29, 2006 Docket No. 83359-1 Title: PET TOY Customer No. 30076

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action of June 29, 2006, and is timely filed with a two-month extension of time.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 21-54 are pending in the present application. Claims 31-40 and 48-54 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 30 is objected to for depending on a canceled claim 1. Claims 21-24, 28-29, 41-44 and 46-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by VanNatter (US 5,553,570). Claims 21 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell (US 5,195,917). Claims 25 and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over VanNatter. Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell and Alonso (US 3,375,604). Claim 30 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over VanNatter and Snook (US 6,601,539).

Claim 30 has been amended. No new claims have been added. No claims have been deleted. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims. Applicant respectfully contends that the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the cited references.